

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 02074 161603Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 /019 W
-----054189 161816Z /46

R 161420Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
TO USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7032
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

UNCLAS ALGIERS 2074

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, AG, SY, TS
SUBJ: NOV 77 EDP SEMINAR MISSION

REFS: A) USDOC 14432; B) TUNIS 5512(NOTAL)

1. AGREE WITH TUNIS THAT BASIC PROBLEM OF COMPUTER "ARABIZATION" REFERS TO ADAPTATION OF COMPUTER HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE PACKAGES TO ARABIC LANGUAGE.

2. AS TUNIS MENTIONED, ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN WORKING ON THIS. ALGERIA'S PRIMARY CONCERN IS TO BE ABLE TO INSTALL REMOTE TERMINALS IN OUTLYING AREAS WHERE OPERATORS MAY NOT BE FAMILIAR WITH LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ARABIC OR WHERE INPUT MATERIAL IS IN ARABIC. (ONE ASPECT OF THIS GENERAL PROBLEM IS NOT RPT NOT A PROBLEM HERE: ALGERIA USES WESTERN NUMERALS AS OPPOSED TO ARAB NUMERALS USED IN EASTERN ARAB COUNTRIES.) ALSO REFERRED TO WITHOUT CLARIFICATION WAS PROBLEM OF USING COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY FOR PRINTING AND PUBLISHING IN ARABIC. (ALTHOUGH THIS WAS NOT EXPLAINED, PERHAPS THIS REFERS TO PROBLEM OF TRYING TO ADAPT NEW TECHNOLOGY TO ANTIQATED MACHINERY OR PROCESSES - ALL ARABIC PRINTING IN ALGERIA CURRENTLY SET BY HAND).

3. ALGIERAIN OFFICIALS EMPHASIZE THAT, ALTHOUGH THEY WOULD BE EX-
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TREMELY INTERESTED IN ARABIZATION AS TOPIC FOR SEMINAR, THEY HAVE DONE SOME WORK IN THIS AREA AND WOULD NOT WANT SEMINAR TREATMENT OF SUBJECT TO BE TOO ELEMENTAL; THEY UNDERSTAND THE PROBLEM, AND IN SOME CASES THEY UNDERSTAND THE THEORETICAL SOLUTIONS, BUT THEY ARE HAVING TROUBLE WITH PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF AN ARABIZATION SYSTEM.

4. EMBASSY CONTROL OFFICER FOR MISSION WILL BE COMMERCIAL OFFICER
SHIRL MCARTHUR.HAYNES

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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